

CALGARY GENERAL HOSPITAL

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW NURSES' RESIDENCE AND SCHOOL OF NURSING MAY 12, 1956

The Administration and Faculty of the Calgary General Hospital and School of Nursing welcome you on the occasion of the opening of the New School and Residence. We are most anxious to tell you about our programme and to show you all the excellent features of a modern and efficient new building.

What you will see during your tour of the building is the result of group effort throughout the planning and building stages. All those associated with the School and Residence, including students, were consulted - many joint conferences were held with the Architects, and all blueprints were carefully scrutinized by all concerned.

During the tour you will hear about and see an up-to-date and highly functional Nurses' Residence and School. We have, in addition, prepared for your convenience this brochure containing the special features which we feel are most significant.

The School, although part of the Residence, is an entity in itself. Here you will find two floors. On the first floor is a demonstration room where students are taught the actual practice of nursing. The seats are raised to enable better vision, and thus approximately sixty students can be taught at the same time. Notice that on a circular section of the floor a complete patient's unit has been placed. This portion of the floor will revolve, allowing the teacher always to demonstrate clearly the care of a patient. Mrs. Chase looks quite alive - we are sure you will agree. Notice also that this room may be darkened with curtains for films or slides. The chalk boards may be raised and lowered so that we have greater writing space for the size of the wall space. Under the chalk are cork notice boards and x-ray view boxes.

Across the corridor are two large, well equipped practice rooms - replica of actual hospital wards, with a dressing room, service room, charting desks, medicine room, kitchenettes, and linen carts.

There are offices for the teaching staff on both the first and second floors.

The second floor contains three classrooms, a science laboratory, and a library. One classroom will seat over one hundred students and the other two will seat sixty students each. All classrooms may be darkened for films and slides. Each classroom has x-ray view boxes, generous chalk boards, and cork notice boards. Over the chalk board is a metal rail and hooks on which charts and posters may be hung.

The Science Laboratory is bright, complete, and convenient. Here various experiments prove to us the scientific reasons behind the practice of nursing.

We are particularly proud of the Library. The tables were made by our own carpenters and exactly suit the purpose for reading and studying.

Also on the first floor is a Conference Room. Here many groups, including the Head Nurses and Faculty, may gather to discuss and plan for better care of patients and better education of nurses. Notice the trapezoidal tables which may be arranged in the manner most suited for the occasion. A chalk board helps to clarify discussions and the Curriculum Boards are available for all to study.

Coming then past the general office and the office of the Associate Director of Nursing Education, you enter the Reception Area of the Residence.

Notice the individual mailboxes which will also contain the examination papers - marked and returned unsealed to their owners; the Students "In-Out" Board; the switchboard; and the Call Board.

To your left on the Mezzanine you will see a lovely, quiet reading room, furnished mainly by an interested citizen of Calgary. To the right, a sunken lounge, arranged in conversational areas. A grand piano is the gift of two good citizens. The Gissing paintings and the mirror likewise are gifts.

This lounge will be used for many formal and informal student activities. It is here that we hold receptions and teas for the students and their parents. The Director of Nursing and the Faculty meet, greet, and mingle among the "family" groups, thus affording an opportunity for each to know the other - a truly marvellous experience for all of us.

Returning now to the left of the Mezzanine, we see a series of small, private reception rooms. These have been named and furnished as Provincial Rooms, representative of the Provinces of Canada - note the Provincial Coat of Arms on each door; also the scenic drapes in each room, characterizing the special Province. The furnishings are a gift of one of Calgary's leading citizens.

Please drop in for even a moment in British Columbia. The scenic drapes include mountains, trees and flowers - so appropriate to this part of Canada.

Next door we shall feel right at home. Here we are in Sunny Alberta. The lovely draperies and lamps depicting the varying scenes and activities of Ranch Life and of course the "Calgary Stampede". The western style furniture speaks for itself. Sit down on the old wagon seat and let your imagination roam.

Our next door neighbors - Manitoba and Saskatchewan - have been combined. Ah! Here we see the sheaf of golden wheat and "a bit o' thistle" for colour.

Next we visit the home of many of our forebears - Ontario - the Land of the Maple. The furniture depicts the age, tradition and steadiness of the Province.

"Vive La Quebec" - The home of the habitant - colorful, gay, and lively. The handmade tapestries adorning the walls are a gift of a member of the Faculty, whose early roots were set down in that Province. Stay awhile and enjoy the color and comfort of this charming room, "Bienvenu!"

Last but by no means least, the lovely Maritime Provinces, known as the Cradle of Confederation. The scenic draperies depicting the sailing boat, the fishing wharfs, the Atlantic coastline, the billowy waves, and above them the inevitable swallow. "Loyalist" maple furniture seems most appropriate.

We pause now to enter the "hush and quiet" of our sanctuary - The Alumnae Memorial Chapel. Students will say "Prayers" here each morning and many special services for any or all religious groups will bring peace and renewal of faith.

The Alumnae Association of the Calgary General Hospital School of Nursing chose to completely furnish this room as a lasting memorial. Generations of nurses will be grateful for the solace and inspiration it will afford.

Moving back to the main reception area we turn now to the north, and off this corridor we find a Sewing Room and a Hobby Room. The latter may be darkened for photographic developments and there are cupboards for various hobby equipment.

We come now to the students' rooms. Notice the combination desk and dressing table, the excellent lighting, the easy chair, the bookcase, the combined bed-couch, and the compact cupboards. Each student will have her own room where she can study, sleep, and relax. All the rooms are alike on each floor, with six basic colors.

Carpets in the corridors are particularly important, so that traffic noise may be kept to a minimum. Patients must be nursed "around the clock" - therefore some students on evening and night duty must sleep during the day, while others work.

Going down the stairs we enter the Games Room where students may entertain their family and friends. Notice that the floor has been laid so that they may play checkers and shuffleboard. Our ping-pong table has been moved into this area. Three lovely pictures of the Calgary Stampede have been donated by one of our good citizens. The modern-fold doors will make this area into two rooms.

To the South of the Games Room we find two dining rooms and a fully equipped kitchen for the use of the students. The dining rooms have been very completely furnished by one generous friend, and the Minton china donated by another. The pictures are gifts from past students and friends.

While students have their meals in the Cafeteria of the hospital, these dining rooms will afford the students an opportunity to entertain their family and friends to a meal, prepared and served by themselves. This is the only "home" in Calgary for many of our students and so they need these facilities.

Proceeding North to the students' private Lower Lounge, you will see that provision has been made for students to relax informally in "housecoat or blue jeans" amid colorful and gay surroundings. No visitors will be permitted in this area. In the large central kitchen, students may enjoy an "off-duty snack", while they relax together as a family group. Next door is the Tuck Shop, owned and operated by the students themselves for their own convenience.

Still proceeding to the North, we find on the left a central laundry into which washing machines and spin driers have been moved.

To the right is a Shampoo Room. Here students will be required to wash their hair so that the sinks in the rest of the building will not become plugged with an accumulation of hair and bobby pins. This will minimize the maintenance plumbing service. Next door to this is a Cold Storage Room for blankets, coats, and woollens. Farther North and on the left, is a room for trunk and luggage storage.

We end our tour where we started, in the Auditorium. This is a multi-purpose area where large groups may gather for graduation, Student Association meetings, panel discussions and classes, plays, variety shows, and sports. The floor is marked off for basketball, badminton, and volleyball. Already we are having to "book" the Auditorium so that activities do not conflict.

The Calgary Hospitals Board, the Administration, the Faculty and Students are very proud of the New School and Residence. We hope that you as citizens will share this pride in a great achievement.

THE CALGARY GENERAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING
IS DEDICATED TO THE PREPARATION OF NURSES TO SERVE HUMANITY

